

THE CHRISTIAN BANNER.

NOTICE.

The National Executive Committee will meet on the first Tuesday in August, principally at the residence of the author of this paper, and will call for contributions and arrange for the regular issue of the paper.

BY THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee of the "National Association of Christians" opposed to Secret Societies,

To the members of the last Aurora and Pittsburg Conventions, and to all Christians in sympathy with the object of said conventions:

Brothermen—We have considered the proposal adopted at Pittsburgh for the development specially to religious the church and country of the secret orders which are perverting and undermining both. Following are some reasons in favor of such a paper:

1. Each of all existing papers has a specialty of its own, and cannot attend properly to this.

2. As the secret orders cannot endure free discussion, they will not allow it where they can prevent it; and hence most existing papers in danger of being damaged by them if they open their columns to a full and thorough discussion of these orders, such as is given to other subjects, and such as is demanded by their prevalence and importance.

3. Large and intelligent bodies of Christians, such as the United Presbyterians, United Brethren, Free and Wesleyan Methodists, etc., have always made membership in such orders a cause of discipline, and several State conventions and associations of Congregationalists have adopted resolutions condemning them, while others, though organiza-tions fraternal and pure, yet the secret orders by their silent countenance or open opposition.

The result and working of this state of things will be to damage the denominations and individuals opposed to these orders, to sweep away their influence and work, and to praise and build up those that are willing to follow the secret orders.

A common organ is therefore an absolute necessity to the denominations and individuals opposed to these orders, through which they may bear from, and be strengthened by each other; to encourage and assist existing denominational papers by helping them to facts and arguments; to aid and represent local and national conventions; and, generally, to further the views, discuss the principles, and help carry out the measures of the "National Association," organized by the Pittsburgh National Convention last May. Therefore,

Resolved, That we take measures, at once, to start a paper to be called "THE CHRISTIAN BANNER, OPPOSED TO SECRET SOCIETIES," to be issued, for the present, in once a week, at one dollar per paper, as a four-page six-column paper.

Resolved, 2. That we at once raise money to issue the first number of said paper as a circular notice.

Bone at Chicago, June, 1868.

D. BREWER,
P. M. BREWER,
J. A. HART,
F. C. HARRINGTON,
JOHNSON,
J. T. JASPER,
L. W. KELLEY,
N. L. STRUTTON,
EERA A. COOK,
D. M. COOPER,
N. BROWN,
A. M. COVAN,
J. F. COVAN.

THE CHRISTIAN BANNER.

Both the Aurora and Pittsburgh conventions resolved unanimously that we have a national organ opposed to secret societies; and extracts from a wide and diversified class of documents, published in the press, show that every man who is in earnest for the Christian religion, against its counterfeits, believes profoundly, that a paper might be established without delay.

To establish a paper, one is less easily done. When Dr. Eliot started the "National Era" at Washington, abominated adhesion from the thousand delinquent clerical and laymen. The "Era" opened on a stock basis of fifty thousand dollars; and when a new paper was talked of in New York City, a year or two since, one hundred thousand dollars were the least sum talked of as necessary to do it. Dr. Eliot, however, in his reply to a publisher replied, to said paper as we would require a fund of at least from ten to thirty thousand dollars. This was reported to the committee, and, in this shape, the whole matter was referred to the Executive Committee, who made no report. The first number is now in your hands, concerning which please notice carefully the following particulars:

1. Instead of placing a paper on a jetsam, most bound, we have conducted boldly to print the paper, and intelligent play of the feelings of light and truth against secret and error.

2. We have concluded to begin small, and each reader of this first number, is paid for, to print, just our dollar in this enterprise, or such fractional part of his dollar as he fails to receive paper for.

3. If more than one thousand subscribers send in at least one dollar, then the next thousand subscribers, then your paper is established in the present size and form.

4. If less than three thousand subscribers are received, we shall publish, and those of you who send in smaller sums will get just as many numbers as the money will entitle you to, and there we stop.

6. If we expect, from eight to ten thousand subscribers are sent in before the first year is out, you have the word, faith and credit of your editor, and every man who has a right to speak, that the Bazaar shall be opened, according to record.

7. We ask and expect, every member of the two conventions, and, on receipt of your fee, to give a little, and to join the Bazaar, and the Bazaar shall be open.

8. Let us go to East A. Cook, stationer, 88, LaSalle St., Chicago, Illinois, who is trustee of the committee, and publisher of the paper, to the undersigned.

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